

April 7, 1975

PRESIDENT: Anyone wish to be heard on Senator Lewis' amendment to Senator Rasmussen amendment. Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think the purpose of this bill is to get us in compliance and I would like to ask Senator a question...Senator Kennedy a question, if he would yield please.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kennedy, could you respond?

SENATOR KENNEDY: Certainly, Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: Senator Kennedy, what do you think the affect of this Lewis amendment would have on the bill?

SENATOR KENNEDY: I am in question of whether it would pass the federal rules and regulations because we would be setting...either one. We took out the 500 population so that the entire state would be covered in the amendment that we have already adopted. So in answer to your question, on putting a stipulation of any size town, we might not get permission from the federal people which we do have the way the amendments are set up now. Everyone is included, as I spoke on the small town of Lindsay, 284 population.

SENATOR STULL: Thank you, Senator Kennedy. For those reasons, I think both amendments, the amendment and the amendment to the amendment should be defeated.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lewis, are you ready to close debate on your amendment? The Senator waives his right to close argument on the amendment to Senator Rasmussen's amendment. Record your vote on Senator F. Lewis' amendment. Have you voted? Record.

CLERK: 10 ayes, 25 nays, remainder not voting, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion fails. The question before the house is the adoption of the Rasmussen amendment. Senator Rasmussen. Does anyone wish to speak further on that matter? Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have got a strange feeling that although Senator Rasmussen might be sincere, and I am sure he is, in his efforts and I know how he feels about the volunteer firemen, having worked with them for about four years. I think you have got a problem, though, in the respect that if you adopt the bill and you have that amendment on there, the communities with 3,000 and less will not have any ambulance or rescue service because they cannot be licensed. They will not receive accreditation and therefore, when it comes time to pick up somebody you know, they are going to put them in the back of a station wagon and haul them down the street and I don't think, even though it is an honest effort, I don't think that the volunteers even want that. I think they want to be trained in every possible way that there is and I think if we adopt his amendment, we are really hurting the smaller community instead of helping them.